

IN THE CLAIMS:

The present listing of claims replaces all prior versions, and listings of claims in the application.

1. (Currently Amended) A process of preparing a coating composition comprising forming a hydrolysis product by hydrolysing:

- (a) at ~~least~~ least one compound represented by general formula I,



wherein M is ~~an element~~ a member selected from the group consisting of Si, Ti, Zr, Sn, Ce, Al, B, VO, In and Zn, R' represents a hydrolysable radical, and m is an integer from 2 to 4; and

- (b) optionally at least one compound represented by general formula II,



wherein the radicals R' and R are the same or different, R' is as defined above, R represents a group selected from an alkyl group, an alkenyl group, an aryl group, a hydrocarbon group with at least one halogen group, an epoxide group, a glycidyloxy group, an amino group, a mercapto group, a methacryloxy group and a cyano group, and a and b independently of one another have a value from 1 to 3, provided that the sum of a and b is four[[,]]; and

- (c) performing, after completion of hydrolysis, at least one of,

- (i) adding to the hydrolysis product at least one additive selected from the group consisting of flow control agents, dyestuffs, stabilizers and inorganic fillers, and
- (ii) adjusting the concentration of the hydrolysis product to 0.2 to 10 wt.% by adding at least one of alcohols, alkoxy-alcohols and water to the hydrolysis product,

wherein the hydrolysis of steps (a) and (b), occurs in the presence of at least 0.6 moles of water for every mole of hydrolysable radical R'.

2. (Original) The process of Claim 1 wherein the hydrolysis is carried out in the presence of 0.8 to 2.0 moles of water for every mole of hydrolysable radical R'.
3. (Original) The process of Claim 1 wherein the compound of formula II is present in an amount of less than 0.7 moles, based on 1 mole of the compound of formula I.
4. (Original) The process of Claim 1 wherein the hydrolysis is performed at a pH of less than 6.0.
5. (Cancelled)
6. (Original) The process of Claim 1 wherein the hydrolysis is performed in the presence of a solvent selected from at least one of an alcohol having a boiling point below 120°C and water.
7. (Original) The process of Claim 1 wherein M is selected from the group consisting of Si, Ti, Zr, Sn and Ce, and m is 4.
8. (Original) The process of Claim 1 wherein M is selected from the group consisting of Al, B, VO and In, and m is 3.
9. (Original) The process of Claim 1 wherein M is Zn, and m is 2.
10. (Original) The process of Claim 1 wherein the hydrolysable radical R' is selected from the group consisting of halogens, C₁₋₄-alkoxy, C₆₋₁₀-aryloxy, C₁₋₄-acyloxy and alkylcarbonyl.

11. (Original) The process of Claim 1 wherein the compound of formula I is selected from at least one tetraalkoxysilane.

12. (Original) The process of Claim 1 wherein the compound of formula II is selected from at least one of glycidyloxy-propyl-tri-methoxy-silane, methyltriethoxysilane and methacryloxy-propyl-trimethoxysilane.

13. (Cancelled)

14. (Original) The coating composition prepared by the process of Claim 1.

15. (Original) The coating composition of Claim 14 further comprising at least one flow control agent present in an amount of 0.1 to 10 wt.%.

16-26. (Cancelled)

27. (New) A process of preparing a coating composition comprising forming a hydrolysis product by hydrolysing:

(a) at least one compound represented by general formula I,



wherein M is Zn, R' represents a hydrolysable radical, and m is 2; and

(b) optionally at least one compound represented by general formula II,



wherein the radicals R' and R are the same or different, R' is as defined above, R represents a group selected from an alkyl group, an alkenyl group, an aryl group, a hydrocarbon group with at least one halogen group, an epoxide group, a glycidyloxy group, an amino group, a mercapto group, a methacryloxy group and a cyano group, and a

and b independently of one another have a value from 1 to 3, provided that the sum of a and b is four, wherein the hydrolysis occurs in the presence of at least 0.6 moles of water for every mole of hydrolysable radical R'.